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Department of Veterinary Preclinical Sciences, University of Liverpool, Unit Kingdom.

A cobalamin (vitamin B12)-binding protein has recently been identified in canine pancreatic juice which is biochemically, immunochemically and functionally similar to canine gastric intrinsic factor. However, the cellular sources of both this pancreatic intrinsic factor and gastric intrinsic factor in the dog are not known. Antisera raised against canine gastric intrinsic factor have been used to examine the distribution of intrinsic factors in the canine pancreas and stomach. Immunoreactivity was demonstrated in duct cells but not acinar endocrine cells in the pancreas, and in fundic peptic and pyloric gastric pit cells in stomach. All immunostaining was abolished by preabsorption of the antisera with purified canine gastric and pancreatic intrinsic factors. A cellular source of pancreatic intrinsic factor has not been previously described, and the demonstration of intrinsic factor-like immunoreactivity in two cell types in the canine stomach contrasts with its localization in a single cell type in the gastric mucosa of other mammalian species. Furthermore, immunoreactivity in pancreatic duct cells was detected at much higher dilutions of antisera than those required for staining of peptic and gastric pit cells. This suggests a high concentration of antigen, and supports previous evidence that the pancreas is a major source of intrinsic factor in the dog.

PMID: 2340577 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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